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**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION**

AT RICHMOND, OCTOBER 28, 2002

APPLICATION OF	CASE NOS.	PUC-1996-00134
		PUC-1997-00071
VERIZON SOUTH INC.		PUC-1997-00072
		PUC-1998-00098
Annual Informational Filings		PUC-1999-00121
		PUC-2000-00192
		PUC-2000-00266

FINAL ORDER

On October 12, 2000, Verizon South Inc. ("Verizon South" or "Company") f/k/a GTE South Incorporated, together with the Staff of the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"), the Office of the Attorney General's Division of Consumer Counsel, and AT&T Communications of Virginia, Inc., filed a Motion to Approve Joint Agreement and a Joint Agreement executed by those entities. A comprehensive settlement of Verizon South's outstanding annual informational filing cases for the calendar years 1995-1999, together with the upcoming filing covering the Company's operations during calendar year 2000, was submitted in the Joint Agreement. As proposed, customers of Verizon South would receive an aggregate refund of \$200 million, inclusive of interest.

On December 15, 2000, the Commission entered an Order Approving Joint Agreement and Requiring Refund that set forth the provisions Verizon South was to use in refunding its excessive earnings and interest to its customers. All refunds were to be made no later than ninety (90) days from the date of said Order, or March 15, 2001. Additionally, Verizon South was to file a report with the Clerk of the Commission by April 30, 2001, explaining how all refunds had

been made and documenting the status of any unclaimed refunds. As set forth in the December 15, 2000, Order, the disposition of any unclaimed refunds was to be determined by future order of the Commission.

As ordered, on April 30, 2001, Verizon South filed a report on the status of the refunds. Attempts were still being made to locate customers. Periodic reports were filed with the Commission throughout the remainder of 2001. In January 2002, Verizon South submitted a list to the Commission setting forth the outstanding check amounts remaining.

In June 2002, Verizon South mailed due diligence letters to approximately 30,000 customers with outstanding refund checks greater than \$100. The letter informed the customers that checks previously issued to them remained uncashed. Customers were advised to contact Verizon South so that a replacement check could be issued. As a result of this effort, approximately 3,000 checks were reissued. On October 2, 2002, the Commission was advised that Verizon South, after all efforts at issuance and re-issuance of checks for refunds, has approximately \$11 million in unclaimed funds from the initial \$200 million refund effort.

On October 8, 2002, a Staff Motion for Order Directing Remittance of Unclaimed Funds was filed. In response to that motion, we find as follows:

- (1) that pursuant to § 55-210.6:2 of the Code of Virginia, the unclaimed funds held by Verizon South Inc. in these proceedings are presumed abandoned;
- (2) that pursuant to § 55-210.12.D of the Code of Virginia, Verizon South is required to report and remit all such unclaimed funds to the Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Virginia, or his designee, by November 1, 2002; and
- (3) that there being no objection, the Staff's motion should be granted.

Accordingly, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The Staff's Motion for Order Directing Remittance of Unclaimed Funds filed on October 8, 2002, is hereby GRANTED.

(2) As provided in § 55-210.1 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, Verizon South Inc. shall report and make remittance of all unclaimed refunds held by Verizon South Inc. in these cases and shall make a report to the Director of the Division of Communications after completion of the ordered remittance.

(3) There being nothing further to come before the Commission in these matters, these cases are hereby closed and dismissed from the file of active cases.